



Department of State

POL 14 VIETS
TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA 19

INFO SP 02, SS 35, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSE 01, SAH 03, SAL 01, ID 21,
INR 07, P 04, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, SSO 00, DODE 00, USIE 00, NSAE 00,
CCO 00, AID 30, L 03, H 02, RSR 01, 143 W

Z R 051400Z SEP 67 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 6245
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4120
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG 896
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2428

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJ: ELECTION COMPLAINTS

1. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION LA PROVIDES THAT COMPLAINTS
WITH REGARD TO ACTUAL VOTING MAY BE FILED AT OFFICE OF
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY NO LATER THAN SEPT 9. THEY WILL
THEN BE SUBMITTED TO CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL FOR EXAM-
INATION. HOWEVER, COMPLAINTS REGARDING OTHER ELECTION
IRREGULARITIES (BRIBING OR PRESSURING VOTERS, EXCEEDING
LIMITATION ON CAMPAIGN FACILITIES PRESCRIBED BY CAMPAIGN

PAGE TWO RUMJIR 4940 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
COMMITTEES, ETC.) ARE PROCESSED THROUGH JUDICIAL CHANNELS,
CULMINATING IN REVIEW BY SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL NO LATER

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/OTC/MR

REVIEWED BY *Ivan Izuberg* DATE *12/23/81*

RDS ☐ C-YES ☐ E-DATE

IS AUTH.

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THAN SEPT 28. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIDER
"IRREGULARITIES CONFIRMED BY THE CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL
OR BY A RULING OF A COURT" IN DETERMINING VALIDITY OF THE
ELECTION.

2. WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING HOW MANY COMPLAINTS REGARDING
CAMPAIGN PERIOD IRREGULARITIES HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED, SINCE
SUCH COMPLAINTS ARE FILED FIRST AT LOCAL LEVEL (COURTS OF
CONCILIATION). AS OF EVENING SEPT 5, NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY HAD RECEIVED ONLY TWO FORMAL COMPLAINTS. FIRST
OF THESE, FILED BY ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN PHAN NHAC SUU, SHOULD
MORE PROPERLY HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED THROUGH JUDICIAL CHANNELS.
SUU CHARGES THAT BINH MING NEWSPAPER ARTICLE OF SEPT 2,
FALSELY ANNOUNCING THAT HE HAD WITHDRAWN FROM THE RACE, COST
HIM VOTES. COMPLAINT DOES NOT CITE VOTING IRREGULARITIES,
AND THEREFORE WOULD NOT SEEM TO FALL WITHIN THE PURVIEW
OF THE ASSEMBLY AND CENTRAL ELECTION COUNCIL. SECOND
COMPLAINT WAS FILED BY A SAIGON VOTER. VOTER, WHO HAD DONE
HIS HOMEWORK, CHARGED THAT 1) CHAIRMAN OF POLLING PLACE

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DID NOT OPEN UP BALLOT BOX TO SHOW THAT IT WAS EMPTY BEFORE
VOTING BEGAN, AND 2) THIEU-KY STACK OF BALLOTS WAS SMALLER
THAN THOSE OF OTHER CANDIDATES. VOTER APPARENTLY SUSPECTS
THAT MISSING BALLOTS WERE IN UNOPENED BALLOT BOX.

BUNKER

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